

Dear Business and Community Partners ~

2023 was an impactful year! We helped retain and create 531 jobs and supported \$26 million of new investment. To help close the digital divide in Cass and Van Buren Counties, we helped secure over \$5 million of matching dollars to strengthen Midwest Energy Communications' (MEC) successful ROBIN grant application.

Looking ahead to 2024, we will be addressing the need for workforce housing. The State's Rural Prosperity Department awarded us a grant to conduct a housing study and gain necessary information to attract more developers. We were also awarded \$2.5 million from the MECDC to support key community revitalization projects in our communities.

Thanks to our financial investors, our team will continue to support the growth of strong businesses, who employ talented people in vibrant communities!

Julia

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Sincerely ~ *J*

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CITY OF HARTFORD



THE TEAM AT

All photos on the front are of
Cass and Van Buren Counties.



Here's to feeling thankful
for the year behind
and enthusiastic for
the year ahead!

Happy New Year!

